

Larry Itliong Day

Presented by Council President Jennifer Campbell

October 25th, 2021

WHEREAS, October is Filipino American History Month and Filipinos' contributed to the diverse California farm labor movement during the 1960s; **and**

WHEREAS, Leaders included Larry Itliong, born on October 25, 1913, in San Nicolas, Pangasinan, he then moved to the United States in 1929 to seek out opportunities, but due to the Great Depression, Itliong was forced to work on the railroads and later as a migrant farmworker; **and**

WHEREAS, On September 8, 1965, Itliong organized a group of 1,500 Filipino American grape workers, members of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, in what would become known as the Delano Grape Strike of 1965, this walkout was against Delano-area table and wine grape growers, protesting years of poor pay and conditions; **and**

WHEREAS, Itliong asked Cesar Chavez, & the National Farm Workers Association, to join their strike resulting in Chavez' union voting to join the Filipino workers' walkout on Mexican Independence Day, September 16, 1965, an action that soon led to the establishment of the United Farm Workers of America Organizing Committee of the AFL-CIO; **and**

WHEREAS, Itliong then moved on to become the President of the Filipino American Political Association, the first national political Filipino American organization and a crucial alliance between Filipino professionals and laborers that grew out of the Delano Grape Strike; **and**

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong's life & collaborative spirit provides a lesson about how we can work together to overcome obstacles; **and**

WHEREAS, the AAPI Democratic Club of San Diego recognizes leaders and notable individuals of Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage for their contribution to American society; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim **October 25th, 2021**, to be "**Larry Itliong Day**" in the City of San Diego.